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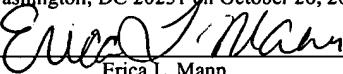
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of)
L. Jagger et al.) Group Art Unit: 2131
Application No. 09/944,869) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: August 31, 2001) Attorney Docket No. NAI1P025/01.156.01
For: EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT AND) Date: October 26, 2001
BLOCKING OF MALICIOUS CODE)
AND HACKING ATTEMPTS IN A)
NETWORK ENVIRONMENT)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on October 26, 2001.

Signed: 
Erica L. Mann

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the abstract and insert therefore: (See Appendix A for red-lined version)

A1
A system, method and computer program product are provided for preventing an outbreak of malicious code. First, malicious code is identified at a local location on a network. Information relating to the malicious code such as type, context, protocol, severity, reporting server, and IP address, is encrypted at the local location. The encrypted information relating to the malicious code is sent to a plurality of remote locations utilizing the network. Instances of the malicious code are blocked at the remote locations for a predetermined amount of time based on the information.